

Proclamation

An ample supply of healthy blood is an important resource needed in every community, as blood is required for medical operations ranging from bone marrow and organ transplants to emergency and elective surgeries. One single blood donation can help assist the lives of up to three people.

Hawai'i's unique geographic location and diverse populations present additional challenges to collecting and storing an adequate local blood supply. While it is estimated that 60 percent of the general population will need a transfusion during their lifetime, only two percent of the eligible population donates blood.

Since 1941, the Blood Bank of Hawai'i has addressed these challenges and provided blood to hospitals throughout our state. Last year, the nonprofit organization collected in excess of 58,000 pints from more than 26,000 donors. In addition, new parents can donate the blood from their baby's umbilical cord to the Hawai'i Cord Blood Bank. Rich with life-giving stem cells, this resource is often disposed of, but offers life-saving abilities to patients statewide.

We extend our sincerest *mahalo* to our residents and visitors who donate blood, whether it is their first time, or whether they have donated several pints or even gallons. Your efforts not only save lives on our islands, but helps with critical research leading to better healthcare for everyone.

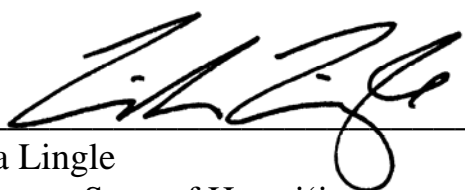
Blood is traditionally in shortest supply during the winter months due to the holidays, illnesses, travel schedules and inclement weather. Therefore, each January, the Blood Bank of Hawai'i joins other blood donation centers across the nation in celebrating *National Blood Donor Month* to encourage healthy citizens to make a donation. Several luncheons are planned on O'ahu, Maui and Kaua'i and in Hilo and Kona to recognize the top blood donors in our state. In addition, the Blood Bank of Hawai'i teamed up with Baskin Robbins on a "Give a Pint, Get a Pint" promotion.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and **I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR.**, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **January 2008**, as

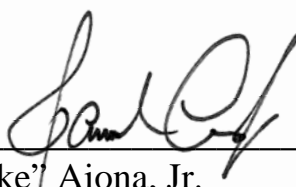
BLOOD DONOR RECOGNITION MONTH

in Hawai'i, and encourage our healthy citizens to help save the lives of others by donating blood.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this second day of January 2008.



Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i



James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i